

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, Governor M. Michael Rounds *goes out and buys anything he wants or needs, not leaving anything for family or friends to give him for Christmas*; and,

Whereas, Governor M. Michael Rounds has such a wonderful, understanding family, which include his wife, Jean; sons Chris, Brian, and John; daughter, Carrie; and daughter-in-law Lindsay. When asked, "What do we get your dad for Christmas?" All have the same answer, "Good Luck", because they know he *goes out and buys anything he wants or needs, not leaving anything for family or friends to give him for Christmas*; and,

Whereas, Governor M. Michael Rounds is not quite as understanding as father Don, mother Rosemary, 13 siblings and spouses; Michelle and Randy, Dennis, Doug and Jackie, Tim and Kristen, Dan and Wendy, Tom and Shelly, Pat and Michelle, Steve and DeeAnn, Michelle and Rob, Scott and Kara, Mark and Pam, Jamie and Kathy, Ryan and Patty—all who draw names for Christmas hoping not to draw his name—and if they do, they put it back for the last poor sibling to draw, because they know he *goes out and buys anything he wants or needs, not leaving anything for family or friends to give him for Christmas*; and,

Whereas, Governor M. Michael Rounds has staff and friends, too numerous to name (and for job security did not want to be named), finally figuring out the fact that he *goes out and buys anything he wants or needs, not leaving anything for family or friends to give him for Christmas*, but still try desperately to come up with a gift he does not already have and may need—they felt Burger King's bacon double cheeseburgers and milk would be too hard to wrap and his son, John, would probably devour them before they got to the governor—and because of his gift of gab, maybe a cattle prod to keep him from always running late, but this would not be appropriate for their boss—the governor of South Dakota; and,

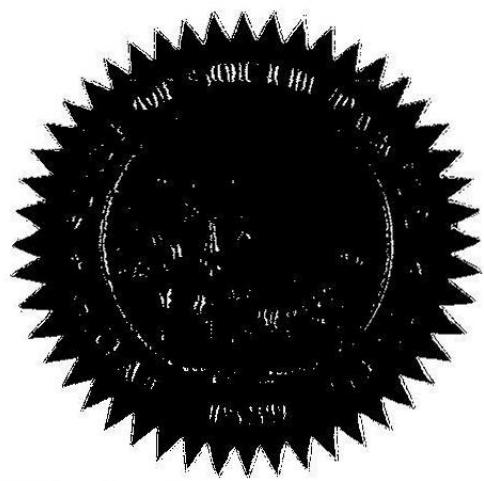
Whereas, Governor M. Michael Rounds' life is full of little gifts that can't be given, such as being a governor who's political party controls the state's Senate and House, and the same party controls the White House, US Senate and House; having all his favorite sport teams as power houses, LA Lakers basketball champions, NY Yankees baseball pennant winner, and even the Packers are on top of their division in football; and, let's not forget about his favorite sport, hunting. Does he not have the best place in the world to hunt pheasants? Yes, we can say Governor M. Michael Rounds has just about everything; and,

Whereas, Governor M. Michael Rounds, has many other gifts that money can't buy—loving family and friends, the patience of Job, the art of listening and understanding, the ability to communicate with all and to be understood, the opportunity to lead a great state, and the character to be a good father, son, brother and friend to all that know him. It is because of these last gifts that we are allowing Governor M. Michael Rounds, a man who *goes out and buys anything he wants or needs, not leaving anything for family or friends to give him for Christmas*, to have a special day so he may never forget how fortunate he truly is.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JEAN ROUNDS, First Lady of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim December 25, 2004, as

GOVERNOR M. MICHAEL ROUNDS, THE MAN THAT HAS EVERYTHING DAY

in South Dakota, and may God continue to bless him with all his true gifts.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twentieth Day of December in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

Jean Rounds
Jean Rounds, First Lady

Attest:
Chris Nelson
Chris Nelson, Secretary of State